

In fact

For The Millions Who Want a Free Press

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George Seldes, Editor

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U S Cliveden Set

MR ROOSEVELT'S press conference Feb 17 produced a sensational charge by the President against unnamed individuals who are harming America's war effort and whom he called the Cliveden Set. The British Cliveden Set got its name from Lady Astor's home, Cliveden, where pro-Nazis met to plan cooperation with Hitler, appeasement, and the rule of the aristocracy at all costs. Lindbergh cooperated with the Clivedeners. When the Cliveden Set was exposed by Claude Cockburn he and the publications which printed the facts of Nazi penetration in Britain, were smeared as Reds.

Describing the American Clivedeners, the President said some of them were raising all sorts of scares, notably the red scare, about cooperating with Russia to win the war, spreading rumors, defaming Britain. The President's description of their tactics was similar to the first paragraphs of IN FACT's first article on Hitler's snipers in America (Feb 16, page 1) which quoted the snipers spreading the following views:

We want to beat Hitler, but let's stop and get those dirty reds first.

We hate Hitler, but—we hate Russia more.

We have GOT to lick Hitler,—but let's lick the unions first.

The British are using our AEF against Ireland.

Asked to name the American Clivedeners, the President replied he was too "polite" to do so, but the newspaper men would know whom he meant.

Washington Clivedeners

LADY ASTOR of London is equalled in America by Mrs Evalyn Walsh McLean of Washington; the Astor country seat Cliveden is equalled by Mrs McLean's Georgetown "Friendship House," and the Cliveden Set of London has a parallel in the Friendship Set of Washington, Bruce Minton writes (Copyright, New Masses, Feb 24). This article is a journalistic scoop, having been prepared before Roosevelt's denunciation. Minton lists among Friendship House standbys:

Representatives Martin Dies and Hamilton Fish;

State Department appeasers Breckenridge Long, A A Berle and Loy Henderson;

"Statesmen" James Cromwell, ex-Minister to Canada and William R. Castle, former ambassador to Japan whose pro-Japanese plea appeared in NYHerald Tribune on Pearl Harbor Day.

Press representatives Eleanor Patterson, owner of Wash Times-Herald, sister of Joseph Medill Patterson of NYDaily

The Sugar Scandal: Inside Story p. 1

Alcohol War Involves Rockefellers p. 3

Who's Editing the Byrd Committee Record? p. 3

THE present sugar shortage is due to two causes, one legitimate, the other phony and scandalous. The legitimate cause is the withdrawal from the market of 930,000 tons of Cuban sugar by the US Gov't for the purpose of aiding civilians and soldiers of United Nations now bearing the brunt of the fighting war and facing everything from shortage to famine. Since the gov't has not made these facts known, alarming rumors have been circulating.

The second reason for the shortage is hoarding—and not the small hoarding of housewives which has been nullified by Leon Henderson's stamp plan, but the hoarding of the big corporations of two great industries: soft drinks and whisky.

While it can be assumed that the people of America, who are being called on to sacrifice everything from aluminum pots to their lives to repel and finally defeat Axis Fascism, will agree to give up an ounce of sugar a week for those who have up to now fought the enemy, there is certain to be a tremendous scandal when they find out that they are sacrificing more than one ounce a week for the cola companies, chewing gum industry, and the distillers.

Cola, Chewing Gum and Whisky Companies Have Sugar

A New York broker's office in sending out its confidential market letter with suggestions for buying and selling stock—we cannot give its name or quote it directly—concludes with the advice that now is the time to buy the stocks of companies depressed by the sugar shortage scare. It lists American Chicle, Canada Dry, Coca Cola, Nehi Corp, Pepsi Cola, Wm Wrigley as good buys. All of these companies now have great stocks of sugar on hand.

The most interesting case is that of Coca Cola, a Georgia corporation which contributes to the campaign expenses of Congressmen and which has for a generation been repaid by them, especially when laws have been introduced in Congress which would make drinks containing caffeine liable to labeling under even more strict measures than the present pure food and drug laws. ("Last year's tax bill was carefully designed to protect Coca Cola, the tobacco companies, and other big favorites of Southern committee chairmen from hard-hitting excess-profits taxes."—New Republic Feb 16)

Coca Cola was exposed in the August 1938 issue of Consumers Union Reports. This beverage consists of: extracts of the coca leaf, kola nut, caffeine and sugar; also small quantities of glycerine, caramel, phosphoric acid and essential oils. Each small bottle has four level teaspoonfuls of sugar added.

In addition to the caffeine drug in the coca leaf, there is an added amount of caffeine making a total of one grain. But in the Southern States the company changes its formula and adds another full grain per bottle.

Persons sensitive to caffeine—the very same persons who are sensitive to coffee—should know that a cup of black coffee and a small "coke" of the South, or two of the North, contain the same amount. No intelligent mother permits her child to drink black coffee, nevertheless many thousands permit their children to drink one or another of the cola drinks containing caffeine.

The US Gov't first tried to end Coca Cola's practice of adding caffeine to its drink in 1909 but the gov't itself had great difficulty owing to hidden and no doubt sinister elements. Dr Harvey W Wiley, America's greatest pioneer fighter for pure food, tells the story in his "The History of a Crime Against the Food Law." Every legal trick, every political pull was used to prevent the trial of Coca Cola. When the case finally came to the Supreme Court it was Mr Justice Charles E Hughes who called Coca Cola's claim that caffeine was not added a falsehood.

Finally in 1917 a new trial was held, but it was limited to 40 barrels, which were found guilty. The Food and Drug Administration for some reason has never seized any more barrels.

Someone is protecting Coca Cola (and other cola companies) from trial under

the new pure food and drug laws. Can it be the Senators and Representatives from Georgia and other Southern States? The public should demand proceedings on the matter of caffeine.

The Supreme Court ruled (Feb 16) that Congress has the constitutional power to draft business in the present war effort. This is one of the most important rulings in American history. Congress today can seize all the sugar stored at all the cola and chewing gum plants of America and order it distributed to the people.

Why Is the Press Silent?

The press has been silent on sugar, as far as it affects soft drinks, chewing gum and whisky manufacturers—three of the largest advertisers in the nation.

IN FACT will publish, at an opportune time, extracts from the report of the Overman committee, proving officially and documentarily that the liquor interests of America corrupted a large part of the newspaper and magazine press. They bought up newspapers, they got magazines to publish beer and whisky propaganda, and to take editorial stands against the prohibition amendment, and later for the repeal of that amendment. We will name the most prominent newspapers and magazines. Even newspaper men have been surprised by these revelations.

The trouble with Congressional investigations is that they usually come when it is too late to do much to remedy corruption. Perhaps some day there will be an investigation by Congress naming the newspapers, magazines, and perhaps Congressmen, who favored the gum, cola and liquor interests today.

On Feb 9 the Coca Cola company carried a full page advertisement in many newspapers headed "AGAIN SUGAR ENLISTS FOR VICTORY." Pepsi Cola is also a big advertiser. Crown Cola and Nehi are big advertisers in certain parts of the country. Wrigley and other gums are enormous advertisers. And, somehow, the press takes the ad money and keeps quiet on the sugar situation.

Sugar Industry Starves Its Workers

Workers faced with both a shortage of sugar and a stiff price for what they can buy do not realize that every person in the US kicks in with exactly one nickel a week to keep the sugar industry on relief. For a family of four, that adds up to \$10.60 a year. The total is \$350,000,000 a year, representing the difference between the world market price and the actual price to consumers in the US.

When you buy beet sugar, 72% of your money represents a subsidy to the big producers. Biggest of all is Great Western Sugar Co, which accounts for one-third of the nation's beet sugar output. Thanks to the powerful sugar lobby maintained at Washington for decades, Great Western does pretty well. Since it was organized in 1905 the company has averaged better than a 43% annual return on its common stock. Its total net earnings for 34 years were \$188,188,866, while paid-in capital amounted to only \$25,571,520. Dr J Edwin Sharp points out in his pamphlet, Sugar Dollar, that Great Western's annual cut in the sugar jackpot is around \$25,700,000, an amount slightly higher than the original investment in the company. The subsidy also tops the whole WPA expenditure for the State of Colorado in 1938-1939 (a high year), which was \$20,889,202.

The employees of Great Western and other producers barely manage to live. For five or six months' work in the beet fields, the average worker collects \$69.90. The average annual income—including a 40% share from public relief agencies—for an entire family is \$436, the Colorado Experiment Station found.

The nation can have plenty of sugar if the men and women who cultivate the sugar beets and harvest the crop are given a decent living, the Department of Agriculture has been advised.

A plan for making the Rocky Mountain area "the sugar arsenal to feed the armies of democracy" is now in the hands of Washington officials. Put forth by the United Cannery Agricultural Packing & Allied Workers (CIO), the program would mean a new deal for many thousands of oppressed workers in Colorado, Wyoming and Montana.

Jack J Fox, international representative of the union, offered the proposal at departmental hearings on 1942 sugar prices and wages, held under the provisions of the sugar act. He pointed out that unanimous approval had been voted by the Rocky Mountain Beet Sugar Conference, called at Denver by the union.

Great Western Sugar Co, ruling power of the industry, complains about a labor shortage, Fox noted. There would be no shortage, he continued, if beet workers were decently paid and if the employers stopped blacklisting union members.

"We expect that in Germany, but not in the USA," said Fox. "To those who are responsible for the miserable lot of the beet worker, our union says: 'You're sabotaging the defense program of the nation; you are causing disunity; you are making for low physical well being of an agricultural group and thereby lowering the morale of the nation; you are unsettling the labor supply of this area.'"

Farmers are expecting a 1942 price of \$9 a ton, a 34% increase over the

News and Emil Hurja, publisher of Pathfinder.

"Friendship House" is the meeting place of Finnish Minister Procope, Martin Dies, native Fascist Senator Reynolds and about all the leading native pro-Japanese, pro-Hitlerites and pro-Mussolini men of the nation's capital. The Minton exposé is one of the journalistic scoops of the year, but we will bet a dollar against a brass check the Pulitzer Prize Committee will pay no attention to it.

Justice Arnold's List

WE can amplify the list of American Cliveden Setters on a national scale.

First of all there are six accused by Att'y Gen'l (now Supreme Court Justice) Jackson of being enemies of democracy and the American way of life. These are:

H W Prentis Jr, president of the National Association of Manufacturers, the most powerful organization in America, exposed by the O'Mahoney Monopoly investigation as controlling Congress through its pressure lobby and using the American Newspaper Publishers Ass'n as a tool—largely through advertising pressure. (Monograph 26; sold by the Gov't at 25¢; address Sup't of Documents, Washington).

Merwin K Hart, head of New York State Economic Council, an anti-labor organization of business men interested only in profits; Hart is a propagandist for Fascism, Franco's brand; also an associate of Fritz Kuhn and Martin Dies.

Major General Van Horn Moseley, US Army, ret'd, notorious Fascist allied with Felix McWhirter, Indianapolis banker.

Charles A Lindbergh Jr. (Mr Justice Jackson included Lindbergh because of Lindbergh's writings against American democracy.)

The Saturday Evening Post. The largest circulating magazine in America published anti-democratic articles; praised Mussolini and numerous foreign and domestic Fascists; employed a convicted murderer Jerome Maderois (alias King) to cooperate with its notorious native pro-Fascist writer, William McFee (also of the NYSun bookreviewing dep't) to write an article slandering the National Maritime Union.

League for Constitutional Government. The National Committee to Uphold Constitutional Government is a native Fascist organization started by newspaper chain publisher Frank Gannett with the aid of Dr. Frank Rumely who on Dec 18 1920 was sentenced to one year in prison for buying the NY Evening Mail in 1915 with money supplied by Dr Albert, secret agent for the German government.

The present Committee for Constitutional Government has Gannett as trustee. Associated with him are Samuel B Pettengill, S S McClure, who sang Mussolini's praises for years, Amos Pinchot, former liberal, now one of the leading native Fascists fighting labor, and Louis J Taber, who was recently kicked out as head of the National Grange for his Fascist leanings.

The Committee for Constitutional Government sends out a pamphlet called "The Right to Work" to members and others interested in fighting labor and breaking strikes. The native Fascisti who write for this anti-democratic publication are: Stanley High, who also

smears labor in the Saturday Evening Post and Readers Digest; Westbrook Pegler and Gannett. Numerous reprints of Pegler's rantings against labor unions are mailed out also.

(Many newspapers suppressed name of Saturday Evening Post, a large advertiser, also name of Prentiss, when Jackson made the charges.)

Five "Quislings" Named

MORE recently Sec'y of Interior Ickes said: "Our native Fascists are at work cultivating the soil of hatred. Our appeasers are at work sowing confusion. Our appeasers are powerful aids to the Fascists; both are doing precisely what Hitler delights in having them do." Mr Ickes did not hesitate to name names. His five "Quislings" or native Fascists were named as:

1. Henry Ford, who has just issued a public statement—as he did in 1927—disowning the anti-Semitic movement which he did more to start than all the agents of Tsarist Russia.

2. Father Coughlin. The backer of the hate-filled weekly Social Justice has been denounced as a liar by the leading Catholic layman Alfred E Smith, and shown up as a falsifier and purveyor of forgeries by the noted liberal prelate Monsignor John Ryan; nevertheless, Coughlin is protected by his bishop in Detroit, and has never been stopped from publishing racial falsehood and anti-CIO and general anti-labor propaganda by either his bishop or the Vatican, the only two powers, according to liberal Catholics, who can stop this flow of un-Christian writings and oratory.

3. Major Al Williams, military expert of the Scripps-Howard newspaper chain.

4. Merwin K Hart.

5. Lawrence Dennis, probably the only publicly committed Fascist in America, who still publishes a Fascist newsletter.

The Ickes list was sent to Martin Dies, the Un-American Committee head (prominent member of the Washington Cliveden Set), who promptly refused to do anything about it.

Exposed in "In Fact"

IN its 72 issues, IN FACT has exposed hundreds of Quislings, Fifth Columnists, Clivedeners. In our own Congress there are many who range all the way from Hitlerites to labor-baiters; they are all Clivedeners, and notably:

Rep Leland Ford of California. His falsehoods against labor resulted in the CIO getting 15 minutes radio time to answer, thanks to intervention of IN FACT.

Rep Clare Hoffman, disseminator of Hitler propaganda; labor-baiter.

Rep Howard Smith (Dem, Va), author of the Smith bill, known in the labor press as the Slavery Bill.

Texas Poll-taxers: Tom Connally,

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1940 price, Fox observed. "Labor received no increase in 1941," he continued. "But in 1942 we will get an increase or the beet workers will want to know the reason why."

ALCOHOL WAR INVOLVES THE ROCKEFELLERS

THE sugar hoarding situation so far as it affects the liquor interests and the general public is more complicated and IN FACT is indebted to David Munro for permission to reprint the entire story from the current issue of his newsletter (dealing chiefly with advertising) called Space & Time. Munro writes:

"At the end of the year OPM announced that whisky distilling would be 60% curtailed to produce alcohol for explosives. And nothing could be more logical. This date for the change-over was set for January 15. Then it was postponed again, indefinitely.

"What was happening is only now becoming clear. The commercial alcohol interests didn't want the beverage alcohol interests to get the juicy war contracts. The commercial alcohol interests didn't care if this insistence on hogging it all closed up the soft drink industry, or the candy industry, or even if it jeopardized the defense program. Reason that they didn't give a damn is that they are chiefly US Industrial Alcohol, which is Rockefeller, and Commercial Solvents, which is Fred Bedford (the Bedfords are second only to the Rockefellers in Standard Oil). When you belong to this dynasty, you are above the law, even in wartime. Characteristically, US Industrial Alcohol has a man right where he can be most useful. He is Frazer M Moffat, formerly of US Industrial Alcohol, now chief of the Industrial Alcohols Unit in the Organic Section, Chemicals Branch, Materials Division of the WPB. He was formerly similarly located in OPM. Moffat moved in on the Cuban sugar situation.

"Now, an industrial alcohol plant isn't equipped to make alcohol out of grain. And the other OPM idea of using the whisky distilleries was that they would make alcohol out of the Government's frozen stocks of grain and corn. The details of this had been perfected. All that was needed was to get over the hurdle of Rockefeller influence. The Rockefeller-Bedford alcohol plants had customarily used blackstrap which is a cane-sugar refining by-product, as raw material. But the new demands for alcohol outran the normal production of blackstrap many times. Therefore, to keep the commercial alcohol plants in full control, it was necessary to find a substitute for blackstrap they could use. This is 'invert molasses.' WPB directed that 1,300,000 tons of Cuban sugar be changed to invert molasses, so that the beverage distillers wouldn't get a look-in.

"Corn Products Refining, maker of a carbohydrate improperly known as 'corn sugar,' is also part of the Bedford empire. . . . Other possible sources of commercial alcohol include the high wine distilleries of California, who have manufacturers, including the Standard Oil Company of Louisiana, who have perfected a method of making alcohol out of natural gas. . . . Normal US consumption of sugar is slightly under 7,000,000 tons, as against almost 8,000,000 listed as 'consumed' in 1941. Best thought on this extra million is that it went into commercial hoarding, or stockpiling. There is something queer here, too, or this sugar would be brought out into commerce.

WHO EDITS THE BYRD COMMITTEE RECORD?

ONE of the ominous signs of the times, scantily reported in the commercial press but a danger to which the labor press is awake, is the increased activity of the Ku Klux Klan, not only in the south but in other sections. The Auto Workers Union is fighting determinedly to rid itself of Klan elements that have been trying to gain influence. A correspondent of IN FACT reports being told by a Klan official that the organization now has 5,000,000 members and is growing. Therefore it is startling to read that at a hearing before the Senate Byrd Economy Committee, Feb 10, Ed O'Neal, president of the American Farm Bureau, said:

"I tell farmers if they can't join any of the farm organizations they should join the Ku Klux Klan."

IN FACT has checked on this statement, which was published to our knowledge only in Facts for Farmers (Farm Research, 39 Cortlandt Street, New York) although it was sent out by some Washington correspondents. The investigation discloses that:

1. O'Neal did make the statement; a roomful of people heard him, and
2. O'Neal's indorsement of the Klan has been edited out of the record.

The committee's official reporter, in his transcript of the proceedings for Feb 10, covers up O'Neal (page 749) by having him say:

"I tell them to join all of them. If they cannot decide on one of them, to form a nucleus and join the American farm forces."

This doesn't make sense; the phrase "American farm forces" stands for nothing. The importance of O'Neal's statement lies in the fact that it has been edited out of the official record. But the incident also focuses attention on the character and probable motives behind the drive headed by Senator Byrd, which aims to junk all the social service agencies set up by the New Deal—National Youth Administration, W.P.A., etc.—under cover of a war emergency. The facts have been inadequately reported or misrepresented in all but a few papers.

Chief target of the "economy" drive at present is the Farm Security Ad-

ministration. Foes of the FSA, led by Senator Byrd, have charged that the FSA "pays" poll taxes of poor farmers in southern states. A trickily framed question at one of the White House press conferences, as to whether the President favored the "use of Federal funds" to pay poll taxes brought a negative reply, and this was used widely in the press to represent the President as opposed to the FSA. Roosevelt took the first opportunity to make it clear that he had always opposed the poll tax, that he regarded the FSA as essential to the war effort through the Food for Victory program, and that a poor farmer obtaining a loan from the FSA on the basis of an approved budget certainly could include in his budget the payment of poll taxes. At the same time the president turned the tables by criticizing the Farm Bureau (which largely controls the AAA program) for using a "checkoff" on AAA payments to poor farmers and sharecroppers, taking their Farm Bureau dues out of their payments. This brings up the question of the Farm Bureau and Ed O'Neal, its president.

Who is Ed O'Neal? As president of the American Farm Bureau he is represented in the press as speaking for the mass of American farmers. Actually he is a wealthy Alabama landowner (a former governor) whose present efforts to kill the FSA have been repudiated by large sections of the organized farmers themselves, notably the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation. Murray D. Lincoln, of Columbus, O., secretary and general manager of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, writes (Feb 13) that the FSA aims "to develop efficient and expanded production on many small farms—where it is most possible and most vital to achieve it. The only motives that can logically oppose these programs today are the kind of motives against which democratic peoples are fighting today throughout the world."

O'Neal was directly challenged at a Byrd committee hearing by FSA Administrator Baldwin in these terms: "Mr. O'Neal does not by any stretch of the imagination represent the low-income farmers. Do you? Whom do you represent?" O'Neal made no reply.

As a sample of the way the Byrd committee is pressing the poll tax issue, here is a colloquy (unreported in the press) at a hearing Jan 6, between Senator Byrd and FSA Administrator Baldwin:

BYRD: Let me ask you again, do you intend to continue to pay poll taxes out of government money unless prohibited by Congress? Answer that yes or no.

BALDWIN: Sir, I cannot answer that question yes or no. I will attempt to answer it but that question cannot be answered yes or no in my judgment.

BYRD: Why cannot it?

BALDWIN: For the simple reason, sir, that we do not pay poll taxes....

BYRD: A poll tax will be considered as a proper expenditure of the family?

BALDWIN: Yes, sir. The framers of our constitution wanted to see the processes of democracy work....

SENATOR GLASS: Never mind the framers of our constitution.

Senator O'Daniel, Dies, Sam Rayburn, Hatton Sumners, Charles South and Eugene Worly, all denounced as native Fascists in Jan 5 1942 CIO News.

Cox of Georgia, an ignorant and notorious labor hater ("Labor," Nov 25, 1941).

Rep Carl Vinson (Dem, Ga), "author of the vicious Vinson bill to straitjacket labor," according to "Labor."

Senator Styles Bridges (Rep, NH), author of a bill last Nov which would have introduced the Mussolini labor charter here.

Rep Hobbs who proposes concentration camps in peacetime.

(Monograph 26 declares that a large number of Congressmen work for the National Ass'n of Manufacturers; they pass laws to benefit Big Business at the expense of the general welfare of the entire American people. But, unfortunately, Monograph 26 does not name names.)

Suppressed

A WEEK before Roosevelt denounced the Washington Cliveden Set, Thomas E Dewey, leading Republican and possible candidate for president in 1944 told the National Republican Club that "an American Cliveden Set" was negotiating with Hitler and Japan and might try to use the Republican Party.

Named by Dewey was Father Coughlin's Social Justice.

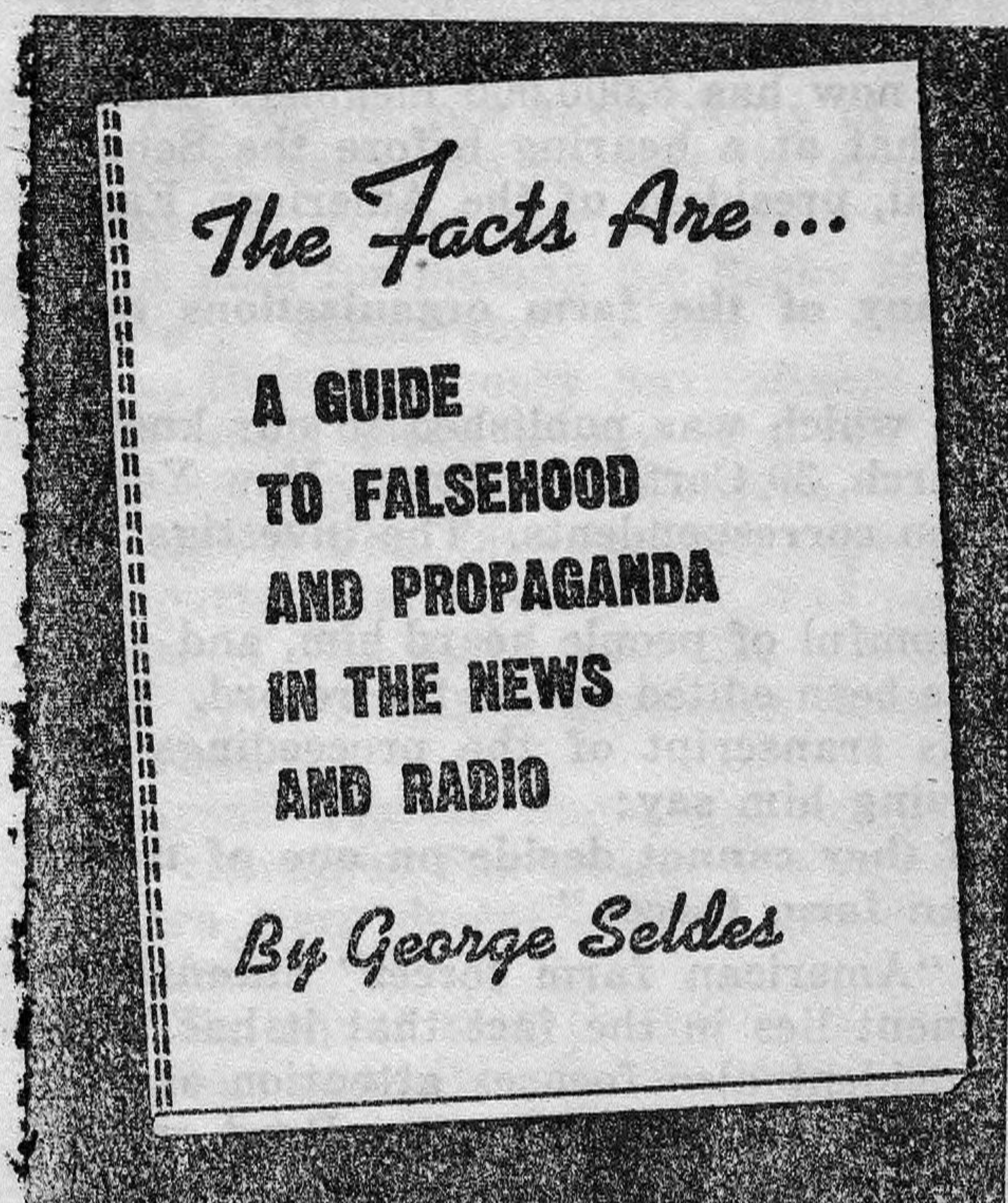
Suppressed by many newspapers throughout the nation, especially by the Hearst press (including NYMirror) was this reference to Coughlin's paper.

Speaking with Mr Dewey was Very Rev Robert I Gannon, president of Fordham University, a Catholic institution.

Many newspapers suppress exposure of Coughlin because they fear Catholic reprisals. But the presence of Father Gannon in this instance at least indicates that anti-Hitler Catholics are not supporting Coughlinism.

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